

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1797 with a release date of January 20th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. QRZ.com joins the fight to kill the SOPA act now in congress; MARS resumes using Winlink; D-Star will be going on-orbit later this year and a tribute to the man who guided the change from vacuum tubes to solid state. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1797 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RADIO LAW: QRZ.COM JOINS THE FIGHT TO STOP SOPA AND PIPA

The giant QRZ.com ham radio website has joined the fight to stop passage of SOPA, the Stop Online Piracy Act, and PIPA, a similar bill working its way through the U-S Senate. Amateur Radio Newsline's Robert Sudock, WB6FDF, reports on why QRZ.com and its owner Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ is taking this hard-line stand.

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Why should ham radio care about these two bills? According to publisher Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, the measures are sponsored by Hollywood entertainment corporations and the recording industry. They threaten to destroy the internet as we know it. And in his front page posting on the QRZ.com, he lists what he terms "the facts about the bills."

According to AA7BQ, websites will be required to police their own content for copyright violations of all kinds. Any website found in violation of the intellectual property of another party must be shut down -- it's internet access blocked by its Internet Service Provider, DNS de-listing, and all banking transactions via online payment providers would be stopped.

Lloyd notes that there is no burden of proof required to shut down a website. Any claim of copyright infringement could result in a court ordered shutdown.

Website owners will be responsible for policing content uploaded by their users. A violation could be ridiculously minor to qualify such as uploading a trademarked image, a photo of a celebrity, a clipping from a newspaper, an audio clip from movie, or the like. Also, uploading a copyrighted song or video would become a felony under the US Code.

And it is not just domestic websites that would be impacted. The law would apply to foreign websites as well, requiring United States based Internet Service Providers to block access to those sites.

Lloyd then notes that this law could also kill his site, QRZ.com, as users know it. He notes that the site currently has some 300,000

photographs on its server, all of which would have to be taken down and manually verified to be in compliance. The same thing would hold true for each biography page where a photograph or other image exists.

Lloyd says that in his case, there's no way he could do it. If burdened with this sort of responsibility, QRZ would simply be found in violation and forcibly shut down by the federal government, all in an effort to please what he terms as Hollywood and the music industries.

To protest both bills, many websites went dark on Wednesday, January 18. The Amateur Radio Newsline provides a short video insert in the TWiT network's Ham Nation podcast each Tuesday evening. That network did not go dark, but devoted its live programming to the SOPA and PIPA topics. As we go to air the programs should be rendered and posted for download in both audio and video formats. Go to www.twit.tv and look for "Security Now," "This Week in Google," "Tech News Today," and "Triangulation" for a more detailed and web centric discussion.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Robert Sudock, WB6FDF, in Los Angeles.

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AA7BQ ends his posting by asking those who use his website to contact their Congressmen and Senators to voice your opposition to both of these measures, especially SOPA. He says that it's not just QRZ.com that depends on their action. Rather he says, it's the entire internet as they know it today. (QRZ.com, TWIT.tv, ARNewsline(tm))

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RESCUE RADIO: ARMY MARS RESUMES USE OF WINLINK 2000

The Army's Military Auxiliary Radio System better known simply as Army MARS is back using WinLink 2000. The ARRL reports that Lieutenant General Susan Lawrence has reversed the decision to phase out the use of the global radio e-mail system by Army MARS members that was issued late last year.

Lieutenant General Lawrence stated that the Army, after reviewing its capabilities, had decided that the continued use of WinLink 2000 would be in MARS best interest. She went on to call it a valuable asset to Army MARS members and agencies that were using the service.

On January 5, 2012, the Chief of Army MARS officially notified the membership that the phase out notice had been rescinded. Army MARS members and agencies who had been using the service hailed the decision by Lieutenant General Lawrence and have resumed use of the WinLink 2000 radio e-mail system.

More about WinLink 2000 is on the web at www.winlink.org. (ARRL)

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RADIO GROWTH: DXCC SEES AN INCREASE IN APPLICATIONS

Interest in DX is growing. So says the ARRL as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has more:

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The ARRL reports that it appears as if more amateurs are working DX these days. This in turn means the ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, especially the DXCC Desk and the ARRL Incoming and Outgoing QSL Bureaus, are working very hard in processing applications and sending out cards via the different QSL Bureaus.

In 2010, the DXCC Desk processed 7134 applications for initial awards and endorsements. These 2010 applications included 853,462 QSOs. In 2011, the DXCC Desk processed 11,175 applications, representing 1,250,864 QSOs.

Sharon Taratula is the Membership and Volunteer Programs Administrative Manager. She explained that comparing 2010 to 2011 represents a 47 percent increase in the number of QSO's and a 57 percent increase in the number of applications received.

And that's quite an impressive increase in any area of ham radio.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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To learn more about this increase in DX, go to tinyurl.com/dxcc-numbers on the world wide web. And we will have more DX related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (ARRL)

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BREAKING DX NEWS: VP6T PITCARIN OPERATION SAYS NO 6 METERS

The VP6T DXpedition to Pitcarin Island will not be on 6 meters nor any exotic modes such as EME or SSTV. Nor will it likely even show up on 60 meters.

The operation which begins on January 20th and continues through February 4th has issued a press statement explaining its decision to concentrate its operations on the traditional and popular High Frequency bands.

According to the team they are a small group and are limited in baggage weight and size. As such they were forced to make choices. And while most of the team are 6 meter operators, they reached a decision not to spend much their time and effort on this band.

For these reasons no 6 meter antenna will be taken with them and no time slot is booked for 6 meter operation. For more details, updates along the suggested frequencies for the VP6T DXpedition please visit the operations website at www.vp6t.org. (Southgate)

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BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Caravan Club Net in Albuquerque New Mexico.

(5 sec pause here)

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HAM RADIO IN SPACE: STUDENT HAM RADIO D-STAR SATELLITE TO LAUNCH LATER THIS YEAR

D-Star should be in space before the end of 2012. Students at the University of Liege in Belgium are hoping their D-Star based ham radio satellite OUFTI-1 will be launched towards the end of this year if at all possible.

Plans originally called for it to be carried to orbit on the maiden flight of the European Space Agency's Vega launch vehicle. That now appears to be out of the question. However team leaders say that other opportunities have been identified and discussions are ongoing with at least one launch provider.

If and when OUFTI-1 makes it to orbit it could mean a lot of those on the fence about purchasing D-Star based gear might just take the plunge. This in turn would likely result in a major world-wide sales boost for Icom which to date is the only supplier of D-Star based ham radio gear.

An update on the satellite and plans to get it into space have been published in the January 2012 issue of the OUFTI-1 Newsletter. That issue focuses on the current status and near-future of D-Star based bird. You can read it on-line at tinyurl.com/oufti-1-2012. (Various sources)

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RADIO LAW: JUDGE ISSUES SUMMARY JUDGMENT IN K1MAN FORFEITURE CASE

It's two for the government and one for Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, in the case involving a fine issued to the Maine radio amateur by the FCC several years ago.

In a 38 page ruling issued January 10th, U.S. District Judge John Woodcock Jr., chief of Maine's federal court, upheld two of the three judgments the FCC sought against Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, of Belgrade Lakes, Maine.

The judge upheld forfeitures totaling \$10,000 for violations of the Communications Act of 1934. The two violations were willful or repeated failure to respond to FCC requests for information and conducting willful or malicious interference with other radio transmissions.

Judge Woodcock, however, denied the FCC's request for judgment on a count of engaging in communications in which there is a pecuniary or monetary interest. Specifically, the judge questioned whether Baxter's promotion of his website during his transmissions rose to the level of a violation of FCC rules even though the FCC argued that the website sells merchandise.

The judge extensively cites Baxter's responses to the FCC, including referring to Baxter's personal attacks against a government attorney, and FCC personnel, including retired FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH.

Woodcock conceded in his opinion such attacks by Baxter made it difficult to separate policy and factual disputes. However, the judge concluded that Baxter could not "avoid summary judgment by attempting to manufacture a factual dispute."

At one point, Judge Woodcock asserts: "Clearly, Mr. Baxter is bristling with irritation with the government."

Citing Baxter's arguments and demands for a trial on the ongoing matters, Judge Woodcock ruled that there must be a triable issue. He then ruled that the government had only proven its case for a summary judgment in two of the three matters before him.

But it's probably not over. Baxter is more than likely to file a further appeal on the two matters that Judge Woodcock found for the government. It's also believed that the government will proceed to take the third issue to trial before a judge and jury. (From Actual Court Transcript)

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PUBLIC SERVICE: HAM RADIO AT THE EAGLE CAP EXTREME SLED DOG RACE

Ham radio will be providing the communications for Oregon's only Iditarod and Yukon Quest qualifier race. The 2012 Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race is January 25th to the 28th. Ham radio volunteer communicators we will be using a pair of linked repeaters tied to a remote base to cover the course. Some operators will be camping out in remote locations for the entire time to support the event. In addition, anyone can listen in on all of the events ham radio communications on Echolink conference Node number 367015. More information is on line at www.eaglecapextreme.com (KB7DZR)

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RADIO AND EDUCATION: THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation for Amateur Radio has announced that it will be administering fifty scholarships for the 2012 to 2013 academic year. This, to assist licensed Radio Amateurs in the pursuit of higher education. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reports:

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The Foundation for Amateur Radio fully funds two scholarships. The remainder are administered by the foundation, without cost to the various donors.

Only licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards. To qualify, a ham must be planning to pursue a full time course of studies beyond high school and be enrolled, or have been accepted for enrollment, at an accredited university, college or technical school.

The awards range from \$300 to \$5,000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Non-US residents are eligible to apply for some of the scholarships.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card to FAR Scholarships, Post Office Box 911, Columbia, Maryland, 21044-0911.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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Scholarship applications are also available for download at The Foundation for Amateur radio website. It's in cyberspace at www.farweb.org. (FAR)

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THE SOCIAL SCENE: WINTERFEST 2012 IN ANNADALE VIRGINIA

Turning to the ham radio social scene, the 36th Annual Winterfest is slated for Sunday, February 26th. This, at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, in the city of Annandale, Virginia.

Tailgating starts at 6 am EST with the indoor sales area opening to the public at 8 am. The large, heated indoor area accommodates more than 100 tables operated by commercial vendors, clubs, ham radio organizations and individuals.

This event is sponsored by the Vienna Wireless Society which will also hold a ham radio testing session associated with the hamfest on Saturday, February 25th. More information is on the web at www.viennawireless.org/winterfest.php. (AI4SV)

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THE SOCIAL SCENE: PALM SPRINGS CA. HAMFEST JANUARY 28

The annual Palm Springs Hamfest takes place on January 28th from 9 am to 5 pm Pacific Standard Time at 4193 Matthew Drive in Palm Springs, California. Hosted by the Desert RATS Club the show will feature 35 vendors, hands on equipment demonstrations, a swap meet and much more. Talk-in on is on the local 166.940 repeater that requires a 107.2 hertz

sub-audible access tone. More information is on-line at desertrats.am.
(VE7REZ)

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HAM HAPPENINGS: TIME TO REGISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS WEEKEND

The International Museums Weekend special event will this year take place on the double weekends of June 16th and the 17th and again on the 23rd and the 24th. Hams world-wide are being encouraged to participate by setting up stations in their local museums.

The events organizer is M1BYT. He asks that all those intending to take part to register their museum via the form on the International Museums Weekend website at www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/immw. M1BYT can also be contacted via e-mail to [harry \(dot\) m1byt \(at\) tiscali \(dot\) co \(dot\) uk](mailto:harry(dot)m1byt(at)tiscali(dot)co(dot)uk). (M1BYT)

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BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: 2012 TO BE A LEAP SECOND YEAR

Look for 2012 to be a tiny bit longer than years past. This is because 2012 will be a bit longer than 2011 or 2010. Confused? Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here to sort it all out:

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The International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service has decided to add a leap second to Coordinated Universal Time at the end of June 2012.

The most recent leap was added on December 31, 2008. They have been necessary because of the Earth's unpredictable rotation.

Coordinated Universal Time, better known as UTC is based on highly accurate atomic clocks, but has been kept more or less synchronized with mean solar time by way of leap seconds.

Leap seconds were first introduced in 1972 but may not be with us much longer. Now however, a proposed revision of Standard-Frequency and Time Signal Emissions will be voted by the International Telecommunication Union Radiocommunication Assembly meeting, immediately before this years World Radiocommunication Conference. If the international panel agrees, Leap Seconds will be eliminated by

2018.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, leaping along in Los Angeles.

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Meantime with this being a so called leap year, February will have a total of 29 days instead of the usual 28, to make up for our rotation around the Sun. So adjust your computer logging software accordingly. (VK3PC)

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RADIO IN SPACE: DEDICATED CUBESAT SPECTRUM FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

SmallSat, CubeSat, and Nano Satellite developers are seeking a spectrum allocation, outside of the 435 to 437 MHz amateur satellite band that could be dedicated to their specific bandwidth, data rate, and mission requirements.

In a press release ISIS notes that experimental, proof-of-concept demonstration missions find it increasingly more difficult to find spectrum on today's crowded bands. Also, obtaining commercial or research space frequency allocations is beyond the budgetary capability of many of these missions.

ISIS says that some satellite developers may be able to adapt their communication requirements to operate in the amateur radio spectrum. But in order to fully meet mission requirements on other projects a more suitable spectrum is quickly becoming a potential long term need for the emerging nano-satellite market.

ISIS says they plan to attend the World Radio Conference, WRC, this month as part of the Dutch national delegation. This is to make use of the opportunity to informally sound out the various opinions on this matter and investigate potential possibilities for creating a future solution ensuring the spectral needs of the community are met. (ANS)

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RADIO AND SPACE: NASA SUMMER 2012 INTERNSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

NASA is accepting applications for student summer internship positions at several of its centers around the country. Students can view opportunities and apply for them at intern.nasa.gov by selecting the Student Opportunities tab then clicking on Internships. The application process must be completed at the NASA intern website. The cutoff date to apply for summer internships is February 2nd. (NASA via ANS)

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HAM RADIO IN SPACE: PLAN YOUR LATE 2012 ARISS SCHOOLROOM CONTACT NOW

NASA's Teaching From Space office is accepting proposals for United

States ARISS classroom contacts to be held between July 15, 2012 and January 15, 2013. The deadline for submitting proposals is January 30th. For more information, see the Teaching From Space website at tinyurl.com/ariss-planning-2012. (ANS, KB3LKI)

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ON THE AIR: HAM RADIO WILL HELP USHER IN THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

On the air, word that the station master for the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society has announced that the special event callsign, 9M4CNY, will be active from Penang Island on January 29th, between 0700 to 1600 UTC. This in honor of the Chinese New Year Cultural and Heritage Celebration for 2012. Suggested frequencies are 7.088 MHz on 40 meters and 14.288 MHz on 20. The operating mode is SSB only. QSL direct only to address for 9M4CNY found on QRZ.com.

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DX

In DX, F8APV will be active from Reunion Island from January 22nd until February 10th signing portable FR. QSL as directed on the air.

JA6CNH will be active as XV2CNH from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam between February 10th and the 15th. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via JA6CNH, direct only.

Lastly, DF7ZS will be active from Aruba Island March 21st to the 27th signing P40S. QSL direct to DF7ZS as his address on QRZ.com.

(Above from various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: NORMAN KRIM - CHAMPION OF THE TRANSISTOR -SK

And finally this week we pay homage Norman Krim, an electronics visionary who played a pivotal role in the industry's transition from vacuum tube to solid state electronics. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Clark, N8TMW, takes a look back at the man who put solid state devices in the hands of experimenters, and ham radio operators world wide:

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In a long career with the Raytheon Company Norman Krim made several important breakthroughs in popularizing the transistor to experimenters. He also had an early hand in the growth of the RadioShack chain,

Norman Krim did not invent the transistor. That was the work of a scientific team at Bell Laboratories back in 1947. Rather Krim saw the device's potential and persuaded Raytheon to begin manufacturing it on a mass scale, particularly for use in miniaturized hearing aids that he had designed. As a result, thousands of hearing impaired benefited from Krim's initial use of the transistor in compact hearing aids.

But not every transistor Raytheon made was suitable for that purpose and this is where Norman Krim's foresight took hold.

Harry Goldstein is an editor at IEEE Spectrum, the magazine of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He said that when transistors were first being manufactured by Raytheon on a commercial scale, there was a batch called CK722's that were too noisy for use in hearing aids. So Krim contacted editors at magazines like Popular Science and Radio Electronics and began marketing the CK722's to hobbyists. The result was that a whole generation of kid engineers, many likely young ham radio operators working in their garages and basements got to construct all kinds of electronic projects. Among these were early transistor radios, guitar amplifiers, code oscillators, Geiger counters and metal detectors.

Goldstein says that as a result, a lot of them went on to become engineers. And as a result, Norman Krim became known as the father of the CK722.

After leaving Raytheon, Norman Krim bought two electronics stores in Boston called RadioShack. By the time he sold the business to the Tandy Corporation two years later, it had seven stores. Today the chain has about 7,300.

For the Amateur Radio Newslite, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC.

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News reports say that Norman Krim passed away of congestive heart failure last December 14th in a retirement home in Newton, Massachusetts, at age 98. As far as we can determine, he was not a radio amateur. That said, the impact he had on our hobby was and is truly immeasurable. (RW and other published reports)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newslite(tm). Our e-mail address is newslite(at) arnewslite (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newslite's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewslite.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newslite(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8H DU, in Lima, Ohio, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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